

The Independent

Entered at the Plymouth Post Office as second class matter.

A. R. ZIMMERMAN, A. D. SMITH
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.
One Year \$1.00
Six Months .50

We hadn't got time to argue 'bout the silver bill er sich,—
Why the poor is gittin' poorer and the rich keep gittin' rich;
We hev said our say about the new fourth ward that didn't stick,
An' we ain't surprised that Brothers M— an, — are feelin' sick.
We don't keer to make no speeches,—but we'd like to say again—
Jes' to whisper in yer ear, like—thet it looks like rain!

BROTHER Mc, this is crow, done to a brown. Which do you prefer, some of the breast or a wing?

THE second message of President Cleveland seems to have counteracted all the good impressions made in congress by his first message.

A MAN who has held onto the public treat for years and held office after office of the most lucrative nature, is very apt to drop into the opinion that he bosses the politics of his particular bailiwick.

THERE are too many men in this country who make the pretense that they are anxious to hold office for the good of the party they affiliate with. No man seeks an office, so far as he is concerned individually, for any other reason than his own personal benefit.

THE strongest influences for love and kindness in this world are the little, fat fingers of the helpless babe. "Little chips be nearest the heart," was the eloquent expression of a rough backwoodsman. The laughing, cowering little babe with its utter helplessness will touch the feelings of the man whose conscience is impervious to any other influences. God bless the dear little babies.

A MAN is very apt to be judged as to his character and motives by those who praise and commend him. Especially is this true as to candidates for office. The qualities that inspire the admiration of knaves and blackmailers and practitioners of skulduggery along the line of political or partisan action can not be set down by thinking men as honorable qualities, and the blowing and extraordinary words of praise that come from men of low reputation cover the man he lauds with suspicion.

WHEN any man claims the support of the people or his party for any office on the grounds that it has become necessary that someone should be the savior of his party from machine rule, he should have a clear record himself as being free from all taint of ring or machine tactics. There is but little show for any man to obtain the confidence of the people at large in a fight for position by suddenly jumping into the field as the apostle of reform in party tactics, when all his past party record has failed to impress the people that he has been actuated by a lofty disdain of what he now attempts to denounce as machine methods.

SELF-CONCEIT, if not a sin, is consummate folly. The wise man in his day came to this conclusion: "Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit, there is more hope of a fool than of him." If there were such men in Solomon's time the breed has not diminished any. There are plenty of them in this day and age and among all classes of people, and in all society. This trait manifests itself in many ways. Perhaps the most offensive specimen is the self-conceited young man who knows more than his father and mother, or than all their cousins, uncles and aunts. He admits that his father may have been right in times past, but he is an old fogy now and not up to the times. Such a young fellow prances around like a skittish mule colt, and knows just about as much. He is extremely smart in his own estimation, but is looked upon by all sensible people as a consummate fool.

It is amusing to see how the doty editor of the Democrat plays "blind man's bluff." In commenting on the position taken by THE INDEPENDENT, he closes his eyes and strikes out left-handed, hoping by some fortunate occurrence to hit us in a tender spot. In his attempt this week to answer the utterances of Watterson, he says: "He (Watterson) is about as good a republican as the editor of THE INDEPENDENT." It would look as plausible for him to say the editor of the Democrat is a republican. Watterson is a rank free trader, while the editor of THE INDEPENDENT always has been a protectionist. He also says an untruth

(We shall not be so ungentlemanly as to say "lie," as the Democrat editor did.) when he says: "All republicans are in favor of the demonetization of silver, the single gold standard, and the destruction of the greenbacks." There are thousands of republicans who are opposed to the single standard, and they are just as pronounced in their views as the editor of the democratic organ. The great trouble with our friend McDonald is, his liver is out of order and in all probability he is troubled with a bad case of dyspepsia, which make him see things as through colored glass.

FARMERS AND PROTECTION.
There are many persons who profess to think that the farmer has no interest in the system of protection. The truth is the farmer has more interest in the system than any other class of producers without any exception. If all the duties are taken off from the products of the farm, he still has more interest in the system than any other class, at least he has more benefit from it than has the manufacturer, indirectly of course, but none the less. While we are not a Jackson Democrat by any manner of means, we have always emphatically endorsed that wise and statesmanlike utterance of General Jackson when he said: "Plant your manufacturing by the side of your farms and you will cover your country with blessings." It is an unhappy state of affairs in this country when the farmers hold the opinion that a protective tariff benefits only the manufacturers. Whereas the fact is that the latter class are the least benefited by protective laws. It is a well established fact that in the manufacture of all kinds of goods, 50 per cent. of the products of the farm enter into composition as labor in the shape of food, wool, cotton, flax, leather, etc. If we pay England \$200,000,000 a year for manufactured goods, then more than one-half of this amount goes to the farmers of England, who feed and partially clothe the workmen and artisans, which, if we manufactured the same things, would keep our money at home to go into the pockets of our own farmers for their beef, pork, wheat, butter, eggs, etc., which they inevitably lose when we let workshops 6,000 or 8,000 miles away do our manufacturing for us. The person then, be he farmer or not, who cannot see that the farmer has an all-pervading interest in this protective system must be extremely short-sighted.—EX.

TWIN LAKES.
DECEMBER 19, 1895.—Parties who are working in the interest of a Rochester lumber firm have begun cutting timber in A. A. Miller's woods.
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. English go to Buchanan, Michigan next Saturday to visit among relatives.
The schools of this township will close next Tuesday until Monday following New Year's.
Rev. Rothenberger preaches next Sunday at 10:30.
Sheriff Smith was on our streets last Tuesday doing business.
Surely Twin Lake can boast of having good women as they are so kind as to send good warm dinners to their husbands who spend their time at the store on stormy days. See Wm. Warner.
A. B. White's health is improving under the treatment of J. W. Nichols.
The Miller brothers have completed their new residence and are now engaged in putting up a large poultry house. Twin Lake is booming.
A large number of fish have been caught through the ice the past week.
The Twin Lake S. S. is making extensive preparations for the Christmas entertainment on next Tuesday night.
J. W. Nichols has the finest display of Christmas candy ever shown at Twin Lake.
The best and most interesting institute of the West township teachers was held at Donaldson last Saturday.
Wm. Dalrymple will vacate the property recently bought by Samuel Beldon and will take up his residence on Lake St.

Facts Conclusive.
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The Night Before Christmas.
[KATE C. HUTCHINS.]
I wonder in how many homes tonight,
Are stockings hung up in a row,
And how many children on pillows white,
Are dreaming of Santa Claus covered with snow.
In visions they see him ascend the steep roof,
His pack on his back and his face all aglow,
They hear the soft pat of each reindeer's hoof—
And are sure he has gifts for all sleeping below.
I wonder in how many homes next day,
Will be gladness and mirth and glee,
And how many children, bright and gay,
Will surround the Christmas tree,
Gifts for all will its boughs supply—
No child empty handed go—
And stockings that hang by the chimney high,
Will be crammed from the top to the toe.
What meaneth this gladness and this mirth,
That accompanies Christmas day?
'Tis because a King was born on earth,
And in a rude manger lay.
These gifts we give to commemorate one,
Which to this world was given.
In the person of God's beloved Son,
Whom He sent down from Heaven.

This sin cursed world from death to free
Christ suffered on the dreadful cross:
His blood He shed on Calvary.
Our ransom paid at such great cost!
And Christmas day we celebrate
As the birthday of our glorious King.
Sing old and young, both small and great,
Let Heaven and earth with music ring!
Then, children, dream on your pillows white
And wake in the morn with glee,
With faces smiling and eyes so bright
Surround your Christmas tree.
But never forget as with hearts aglow
Your gifts you spy in the morn.
That in a manger long years ago,
God's gift to the world was born.

Christmas Bells.
[H. B. JORDAN.]
Sweet rhyming bells, Christmas bells,
Chime long and loud and merrily!
Swing out from the steeped tower,
And echo and re-echo on the hilltops far!
Till wandering, thy resonance swells
And dies in softest melody.
Ring out, ye bells, sweet tuneful bells,
On the frosty bosom of the air!
Chime in sweet and tender anthems,
The platoon diadem of Bethlehem—
For in ages long ago, in Judea's land befell,
Our Ransom in a lowly lair.
Christmas bells, bells, silver bells!
A ringing and a clinging, low and tenderly
In roving lyric strains,
Heaven's sweet refrain:
And quivering in their lofty ead
Leap within the pale of memory.
O Bells, Bells, sweet rhyming bells,
Euphonic harps of destiny,
Send o'er the obscure chords of Fate
And cheer the homeless desolate:
A mission then of love fortells,
A sphere of perfect harmony.

ARGOS.
DECEMBER 23.—Dr. Sarber, who is attending the medical college at Fort Wayne, is home for the holidays.
Protracted meeting will begin at the M. E. church Thursday evening next.
Mr. Frank Neely spent Sunday with his best girl in Argos.

Mr. Ed. Parker and friend, from the Indianapolis University, were in Argos for a few hours Monday. They expect to spend their vacation at the former's home in Marmont.
Mrs. Susan Johnson started for Chicago Tuesday, where she expects to spend the holidays with friends and relatives.
Mr. Van Guilder, of Plymouth, spent Sunday in Argos.
Miss Sarah Brazelton intends spending one week in Chicago and from there goes to California to spend the winter.
Mr. Enoch McCoy was in Argos over Sunday.
Quite a display is being made at Gubbert & Son's meat market.
Mrs. Lou Smith will spend the holidays at Rochester.
Mr. Tinkham is visiting his father for a few days.
Miss Carrie Gobbett is visiting in Plymouth, for a few days.
A number of young people of Marmont, were in Argos Sunday p. m.

Quite an interesting program has been arranged for the Christmas entertainment at the M. E. church Tuesday evening. All are invited to attend.
Mr. Grant Betts and wife are spending this week in Plymouth.
Mr. Sowers leaves today for Delphi, Ohio.
Mr. Napp is spending the holidays with friends in Logansport.
Mr. Parker spent Sunday at Maxinkuckee.
Miss Hattie Smith is visiting her sister, Mrs. A. S. Bixby, at Indianapolis, this week.
The Young Ladies' Guild are preparing to give a Milk Maids convention on New Year's eve. All the ladies that are to furnish milk for the occasion are requested to be there early.
Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Hughes started Chicago Tuesday morning.

Dr. Kendall is in Chicago this week.
Miss Madie Gordon, of Chicago, tarried with friends in this city a few days last week.
Mr. Grant Bright, of Illinois, is spending holidays with his parents.
Mr. Ed. Turner is in Knox this week.
Mr. George Nicely is spending holidays with friends in Argos.
Miss Edith Bucher entertained her lady friends at her home on last Friday evening.
Miss Anna Johnson will spend holidays at her home in Argos.
Miss Stella Taber is home from college to spend the holidays.
Miss LuEmma Hess and her gentleman friend are spending a few days at her home.

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GENTLEMEN—Private diseases, Venereal, Taint, Gonorrhea, Syphilis, Seminal Emissions, Weakness of Sexual Organs.
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Boys' and Children's Overcoats must all go before Jan. 1st. If we have your size left, the price will be low enough, as we do not want to carry one of these garments over.
Our men's overcoats are going at the prices we are making on them.
Remember, every winter garment must go before Jan. 1st.

50 dozen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, at 10 cts. for the Holidays.
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75 building lots in all parts of the city. 25 within four blocks of the postoffice. Prices ranging from \$35 to \$400. Those at \$35, nearest postoffice.
Also the Parker House property for sale.
Lot of 7 acres, with good dwelling and orchard, 5 miles north of Plymouth on Michigan road for \$800.
Good improved farm, 3 1/2 miles west of Plymouth, all necessary out-buildings wild pump, etc. For sale or exchange. Price \$4,000.
Good farm of 40 acres, brick dwelling, 7 miles northwest of Plymouth for \$2,100.
In the real estate and insurance department of our office we have formed a special partnership with J. S. Reeves. J. D. Molter, having gone to Georgia, is no longer connected in any department of this office except the Troup Co., Ga., Lands. The business of that department of our office therefore will for an indefinite time be conducted in the name of Bender & Reeves.
JOHN S. BENDER.

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